

## Why NBAF Belongs in Kansas

### **Unified Public- and Private-Sector Support**

**Federal, state, and local officials are working in close collaboration with representatives from the public and private sectors to demonstrate broad, deep, and unified support for NBAF in Kansas.**

- The state's impressive NBAF Task Force, created by Gov. Kathleen Sebelius and led by U.S. Sen. Pat Roberts, Lt. Gov. Mark Parkinson, and former U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Dan Glickman, is working to ensure this opportunity becomes a reality in Kansas. The task force is augmented by a high-level governmental working group set up to respond quickly to the needs of the Department of Homeland Security throughout the site selection process.
- People and organizations across Kansas are united in favor of this project — from local communities to state and federal officials, from academic centers and research institutes to private business leaders and key agriculture producer groups.

### **Unique Understanding of NBAF's Mission**

**Kansas knows the safety and security of our national food supply is central to our nation's public health and the stability of the economy.**

- Nearly 20 percent of Kansans are employed in agriculture, so we care deeply and personally about protecting our nation's agriculture.
- Nearly half of the nation's fed cattle, 40 percent of the hog population, and 20 percent of beef cows and calves are within a 350-mile radius of Kansas.
- Kansas, the breadbasket of America, is located in the center of the country and is home to numerous private agricultural assets, research facilities, specialists, and academic institutions.
- Because of its agricultural heritage and expertise, Kansas fully understands why this facility is a top priority for the nation: we need to identify new ways to prevent and treat diseases that affect public health, animal health, and our food supply.

### **The World's Leader in Animal Health Research and Development**

**Our state and region do this kind of research better than anyone in the world.**

- Kansas State University has nationally recognized expertise in zoonotic diseases, infectious diseases, and livestock medicine. This expertise helped attract the Biosecurity Research Institute and the National Agricultural Biosecurity Center to the university.
- Manhattan is part of the Kansas City region's Animal Health Corridor ([www.kcanimalhealth.com](http://www.kcanimalhealth.com)), which is home to more than 120 animal health companies — including 37 global leaders — that employ 13,000 animal health specialists.
- NBAF would benefit from the expertise within the biosciences corridor that includes the Kansas City Area Life Sciences Institute, Midwest Research Institute, the Stowers Institute for Medical Research, and the University of Kansas Medical Center.
- The region has an exceptional student population and highly trained work force. Five universities with strong animal science or veterinary medical research programs are located within a 300-mile radius.

## **An Unbeatable Site**

**Kansas is offering the perfect site for NBAF in close proximity to other research and commercialization assets.**

- NBAF would be located on 59.3 acres (including the BRI) on the northern end of the Kansas State University campus. An additional 70 acres nearby is used for animal health purposes and is available for handling livestock, etc. These properties are owned by the state for use by Kansas State University.
- A 30-acre, or larger, parcel directly adjacent to the BRI could be made available, if needed.
- A preliminary environmental assessment already has been conducted and found no significant environmental concerns with the site.
- Kansas has demonstrated an unprecedented legislative commitment to biosciences through the creation of the Kansas Bioscience Authority.
- Several industry partners, including the Midwest Research Institute, have significant vaccine research capabilities, as well as containment assets and expertise.

## **The Best Neighbor**

**Kansas is uniquely qualified for NBAF because it already has the right kind of scientific assets and expertise in place, which can be applied immediately. The Biosecurity Research Institute would be NBAF's neighbor and could actually help accelerate NBAF research that is key to ensuring the safety of our national food supply.**

- The BRI's focus is on infectious foreign animal diseases requiring high-level BSL-3 and BSL-3 Ag containment.
- The BRI provides the capabilities to deal with significant numbers of large farm animals for the effective research, development, testing, and evaluation of threat agent countermeasures of importance to the nation. The BRI's ability to handle these animals in a high-level biocontainment environment provides DHS with a unique national asset to move quickly towards the BSL-4 requirements of NBAF.
- No other state in the United States has a comparable state-of-the-art facility with the BRI's capabilities and homeland-security mission emphasis. In addition, none of the competitors can match the BRI's food-animal expertise.
- The presence of the BRI ensures the availability, sustainability, and capabilities of scientists who are acknowledged leaders in medical, veterinary, and agricultural research.
- The synergies between BRI and NBAF present a tremendous opportunity for the recruitment and retention of research and technical personnel.

## **Safe and Secure**

**Kansas provides an incredibly safe, secure home for NBAF.**

- NBAF, a BSL-4 facility, will be completely self-contained and isolated.
- Its state-of-the-art labs will not only protect researchers, but also ensure the safety of the community.
- All research animals are contained entirely within the facility, and all waste materials are sterilized and strictly regulated.
- All employees working at the facility will be strictly supervised by experts in foreign animal and zoonotic diseases.